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forwarding a transmission request from the host apparatus to the terminal apparatus;

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3. The data transmission method according to

comparing timer values received from the
5 respective terminal apparatuses with each other when said
host apparatus receives a plurality of communication
requests simultaneously from the plurality of terminal
apparatuses; and

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10. A terminal apparatus for use in data

transmission with an external apparatus, comprising:

a timer;

a memory for storing a value of said timer
when the terminal apparatus can communicate with the host
apparatus; and

a controller for forwarding a reply to a
transmission request which is received from the host
apparatus, said controller incorporating said timer value
into the reply and forwarding it to the host apparatus.

11. The terminal apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein said terminal apparatus comprises of a personal
computer.

12. The terminal apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein the terminal apparatus can communicate when it is
turned on.

13. A terminal apparatus, for use in data
transmission with a host apparatus, comprising:

a communication adapter connected with the
host apparatus through a communication line; and

a portable terminal which is connectable
with the host apparatus through said communication
adapter, said portable terminal including,

a timer;

a memory for storing a value of said timer
when the terminal apparatus can communicate; and

a controller for forwarding a reply for a
transmission request which is received from the host
apparatus, said controller incorporating said timer value
into the reply and forwarding it to the host apparatus
through said communication adapter.

14. The terminal apparatus according to claim 13,
wherein said portable terminal is a hand-held terminal.

15. The terminal apparatus according to claim 13,
wherein said terminal apparatus can communicate with the
host apparatus when the portable terminal is connected
with the communication adapter.

16. A terminal apparatus, to be attached to a

communication adapter, which transmits data between an external device through the communication adapter, comprising:

5 a timer;
 a memory for storing a value of the timer at the time the terminal apparatus can communicate; and
 a controller for forwarding a communication request to the external device when the terminal apparatus receives a transmission request from
10 the external device;

 wherein the controller sends the timer value stored in the memory with the communication request.

15 17. The terminal apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the memory stores a value of the timer at the time when the terminal apparatus is attached to the communication adapter.

20 18. The terminal apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the memory stores a value of the timer at the time when the terminal apparatus is turned on.

 19. A communication apparatus for use in data transmission with at least one terminal apparatus connected to the communication apparatus, the communication apparatus comprising:

25 a communication controller for forwarding a transmission request to said terminal apparatus and for receiving from said terminal apparatus a reply corresponding to the transmission request;

 an identification information establishing
30 unit for extracting a timer value obtained from said terminal apparatus from the reply, which is received from the terminal apparatus by said communication controller; and

35 a polling unit for implementing polling to the terminal apparatus using the identifying information based on the timer value.

 20. A data transmission system for transmitting

data between a terminal apparatus and a host apparatus,
said terminal apparatus comprising:

a timer;

5 a memory for storing a value of said timer
when the terminal apparatus can communicate with the host
apparatus; and

a controller for forwarding a reply for a
transmission request which is received from the host
apparatus, said controller incorporating said timer value
10 into the reply and forwarding it to the host apparatus;
and

said host apparatus comprising:

a communication controller for forwarding
the transmission request to said terminal apparatus and
15 for receiving from said terminal apparatus the reply
corresponding to the transmission request;

an identification information establishing
unit for extracting the timer value incorporated in the
reply received by said communication controller from said
terminal apparatus, and for establishing an
20 identification information for the terminal apparatus
according to the extracted timer value; and

a polling unit for implementing polling to
the terminal apparatus using the identifying information
25 established by said identification information
establishing unit.